MISSY COMICS

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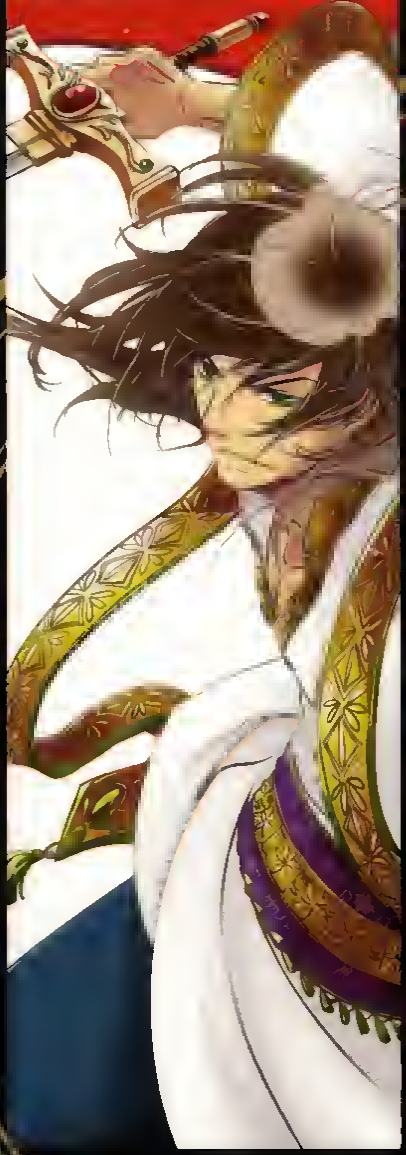
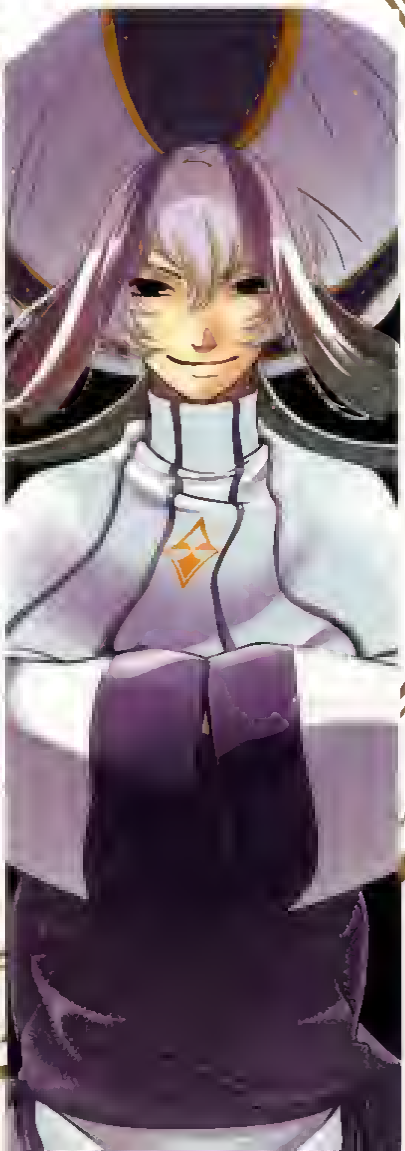




さぎり和紗

WasaSagiri Presents

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER (4)

さぎり和紗
WasaSagiri

ISHARA DI MISSMAR SAIE

HIGH PRIEST OF THE ORCHIS FAITH, ISAISM. BELIEVES ELEVEN AND TWELVE'S MOTHER THAMANYA WAS ASSASSINATED, IS SEARCHING FOR THE CULPRIT.

SILVIE

THE SON OF THE CHIEF OF THE NAJM, THE MOST POWERFUL TRIBE AMONG THE BEDOUIN. HAS BEEN GIVEN ORDERS TO FIND AND ABDUCT "EMIR," THEIR TRUE KING, BY THE ANTI-ROYALIST GROUP "MUZAHALLA."

SAKURA SANA SHAMS

DAUGHTER OF THE CHIEF OF THE SHAMS, WHO HOLD THE POWER TO SEE THE FUTURE. SILVIE'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND, BUT TWELVE'S BRIDE-TO-BE.

EIGHT MAR SARG ORCHIS

THE 8TH PRINCE. COMMANDER OF THE OCHIS MILITARY PATROL BATTALION ISRAFEL. HOLDS AFFECTION FOR SAKURA.

YUAN FANG LONG

HAS DREAMED OF MARRYING TWELVE SINCE SHE WAS A CHILD. THE DAUGHTER OF THE FANG LONG PIRATE CLAN LEADER. HER NICKNAME IS "THE PEARL PRINCESS OF THE DING XIANG." BUSINESS RIVAL OF LUTEEN.

LUTEEN PAI LONG

SALIM'S NEWLY-APPOINTED CONSUL. HIS OTHER FACE IS THAT OF THE HEAD OF THE PAI LONG PIRATE CLAN. HIS PIRATE NICKNAME IS "THE BALD EAGLE OF CAPE RADIZAN."

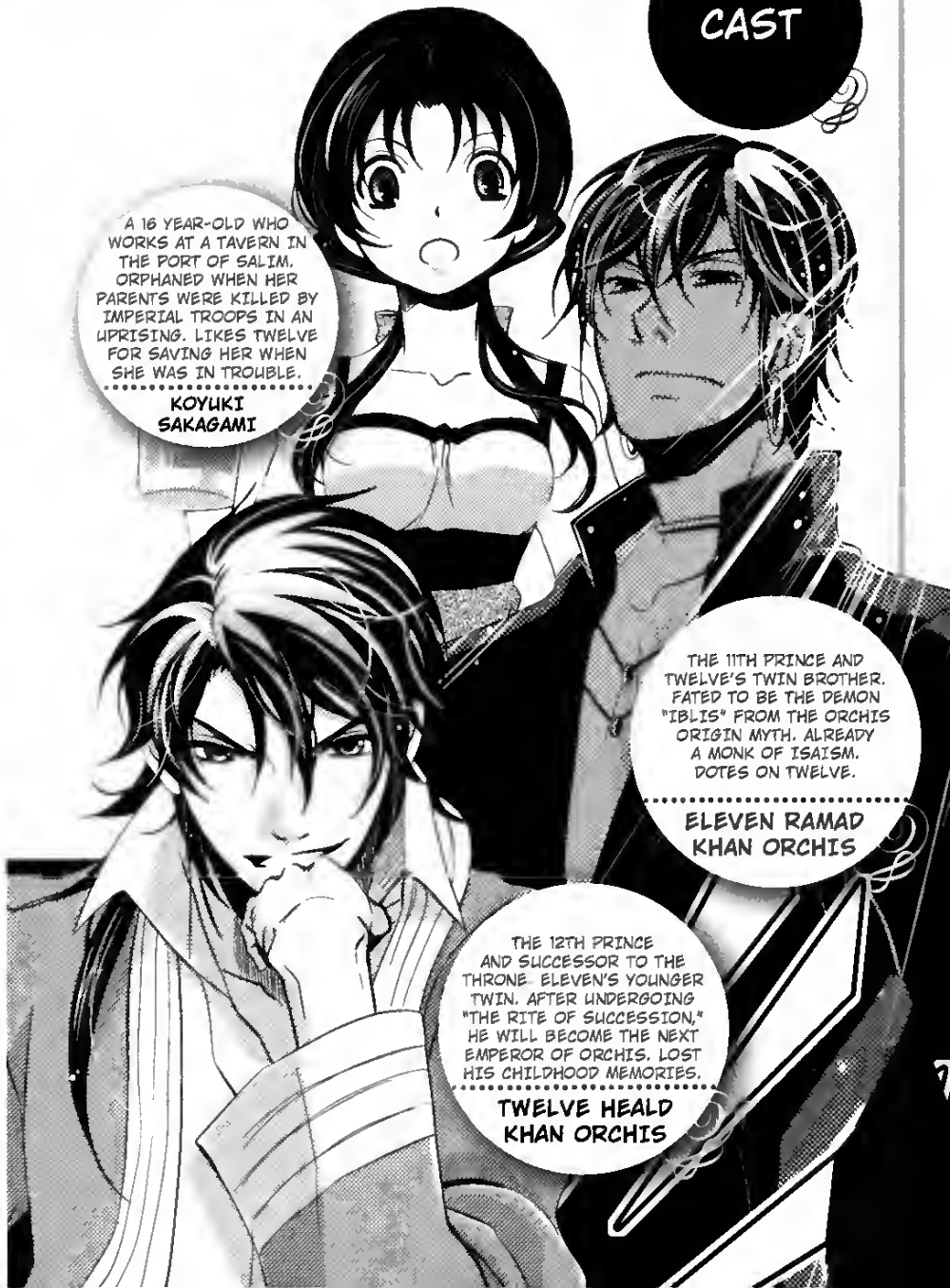
THE STORY SO FAR

THE VAST DESERT EMPIRE OF ORCHIS. KOYUKI, A GIRL WHO LIVES IN THE CAPITAL'S PORT CITY OF SALIM, WAS TROUBLED BY THE CONSUL'S ADVANCES UNTIL THE TWIN PRINCES OF THE EMPIRE SAVED HER.

THE PRINCES BEGIN TO INVITE HER TO THE PALACE, AND SHE RAPIDLY LEARNS ABOUT THE TRUTHS OF ORCHIS, SUCH AS THE ORIGIN MYTH AND THE EXISTENCE OF ANTI-ROYALIST GROUPS.

DURING A BEDOUIN CONFERENCE, THE ANTI-ROYALIST SILVIE APPEARS BEFORE PRINCE TWELVE! AND MISSMAR INVESTIGATES THE MYSTERY OF THE QUEEN'S DEATH! THE DAY OF "THE RITE OF SUCCESSION," IN WHICH TWELVE WILL TAKE THE THRONE, GROWS CLOSER, BUT THE TRUTH IS BECOMING HARD TO IGNORE!

CAST


A 16 YEAR-OLD WHO WORKS AT A TAVERN IN THE PORT OF SALIM. ORPHANED WHEN HER PARENTS WERE KILLED BY IMPERIAL TROOPS IN AN UPRISING. LIKES TWELVE FOR SAVING HER WHEN SHE WAS IN TROUBLE.
KOYUKI SAKAGAMI
THE 11TH PRINCE AND TWELVE'S TWIN BROTHER. FATED TO BE THE DEMON "IBLIS" FROM THE ORCHIS ORIGIN MYTH. ALREADY A MONK OF ISAISM. DOTES ON TWELVE.
ELEVEN RAMAD KHAN ORCHIS
THE 12TH PRINCE AND SUCCESSOR TO THE THRONE. ELEVEN'S YOUNGER TWIN. AFTER UNDERGOING "THE RITE OF SUCCESSION," HE WILL BECOME THE NEXT EMPEROR OF ORCHIS. LOST HIS CHILDHOOD MEMORIES.
TWELVE HEALD KHAN ORCHIS

CONTENTS

PART 2:

CHAPTER 13:
RITE OF SUCCESSION - 5

CHAPTER 14:
THE NEW EMPEROR - 45

CHAPTER 15:
SPIDER'S HAND - 73

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER SIDE STORY:
THE TWO IN THE BEGINNING - 105

PRINCE ELEVEN?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHERE'S TWELVE?

BUT THAT WAS ALL WE NEEDED.
THE TWO OF US WERE ALONE IN THIS WORLD,
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU.
TWELVE.
IF THINGS AREN'T GOING TO GO MY WAY,
IF YOU TRY TO LEAVE MY SIDE...

THEN I'LL TAKE EVERY-THING FROM YOU!

CHAPTER 13: RITE OF SUCCESSION

HUFF
HUFF
WHAT ABOUT OVER HERE?
DID YOU FIND HER?
THE ISAISTS !!
HMM?
I MUST GET THIS INFOR-MATION TO PRINCE TWELVE!
GRAB
?!

YOUR FATHER WAS ARRESTED FOR THE ATTEMPTED KIDNAPPING OF THE PRINCE'S BRIDE.
SHH!
MISS YUAN?
WHAT?
THE ISAISTS ARE LOOKING FOR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT'RE YOU STILL HANGING AROUND HERE FOR?!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS!
ACCORDING TO THE ISAISTS, THE SHAME OF HIS DAUGHTER BEING REMOVED AS FIANCE LED HIM TO COMMIT THE CRIME.
SAKURA.
MISS KOYUKI IS ALSO MISSING.

PRINCE EIGHT!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
I...
I TRUST THE SHAMS.
SO WON'T YOU TRUST ME...
AND TELL ME THE TRUTH?
SIGH
NOT HERE.
COME THIS WAY.
PRINCE

THE ISAISTS TOOK THE LIFE OF EMPRESS THAMANYA...
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT...
ANYWAY, SAKURA,
YOU SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM THE PALACE.
I MUST GET THIS INFOR-MATION TO PRINCE TWELVE...
BUT I CAN'T JUST ABANDON MY FATHER!!
AND WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT MISS KOYUKI IS SAFE!
BUT IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO FURTHER PROVOKE THE ISAISTS.
PRINCE TWELVE...

EMIR WILL DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT!
..IF ONLY WE HAD SOME SORT OF PROOF...
SIR, ABOUT THE REPORT THAT THE EMPRESS WAS SHOT BY AN ANKABUT...
THE BULLET THAT KILLED HER WAS NEVER FOUND.
...
THEN THIS...
MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST.
FWIP

WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS?
!
A SILVER BULLET ?!
THAT CAN'T BE WHAT I THINK IT IS...
IN THE ROOM OF AN ISAIST MONK.
ISRAFEL CAN DETERMINE ITS VICTIM.
HADEED!
THERE IS A BLOOD STAIN ON THE BULLET,
BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO DETERMINE WHO THE BLOOD CAME FROM ON MY OWN.

I CANNOT FORIVE MYSELF FOR THAT
MY LAX SECURITY BROUGHT SHAME UPON YOU...
BUT, HADEED...
PRINCE, GRANT ME A CHANCE TO REDEEM MY HONOR.
FWIP
ISRAFEL IS UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF THE EMPEROR.
WITH THE EMPEROR'S ORDERS AND YOUR PERMISSION, WE CAN BEGIN AN INVESTI-GATION.

I ORDER YOU, AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF ISRAFEL...
...CAPTAIN HADEED,
TO BEGIN A PRIVATE INVESTI-GATION...
TO EXPOSE THE TRUTH ABOUT THE DEATH OF EMPRESS THAMANYA!
YES, SIR.
LUTEEN.
DID ELEVEN HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE EMPRESS'S DEATH?

KOYUKI,
YOU MUST BE SAFELY OUT OF THE CAPITAL BY NOW...
I'LL PROBABLY NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN...

"EMPEROR."
THE RITUAL ISN'T UNTIL TOMORROW, HADEED.
BEFORE THE RITUAL...
THERE IS SOMETHING I MUST REPORT TO YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS.
WH-WHAT?!
!
WE HAVE REOPENED THE INVESTIGATION INTO EMPRESS THAMANYA'S DEATH.
..I'M SHOCKED.
I NEVER THOUGHT ISRAFEL WOULD HELP WITH THAT..
WE HAVE FOUND NEW EVIDENCE IN YOUR MOTHER'S DEATH.
!
ISRAFEL HAS A DUTY TO INVESTIGATE NO MATTER WHO THE CULPRIT MAY BE.
BUT...
IS IT SAFE FOR YOU TO BE DOING THIS?

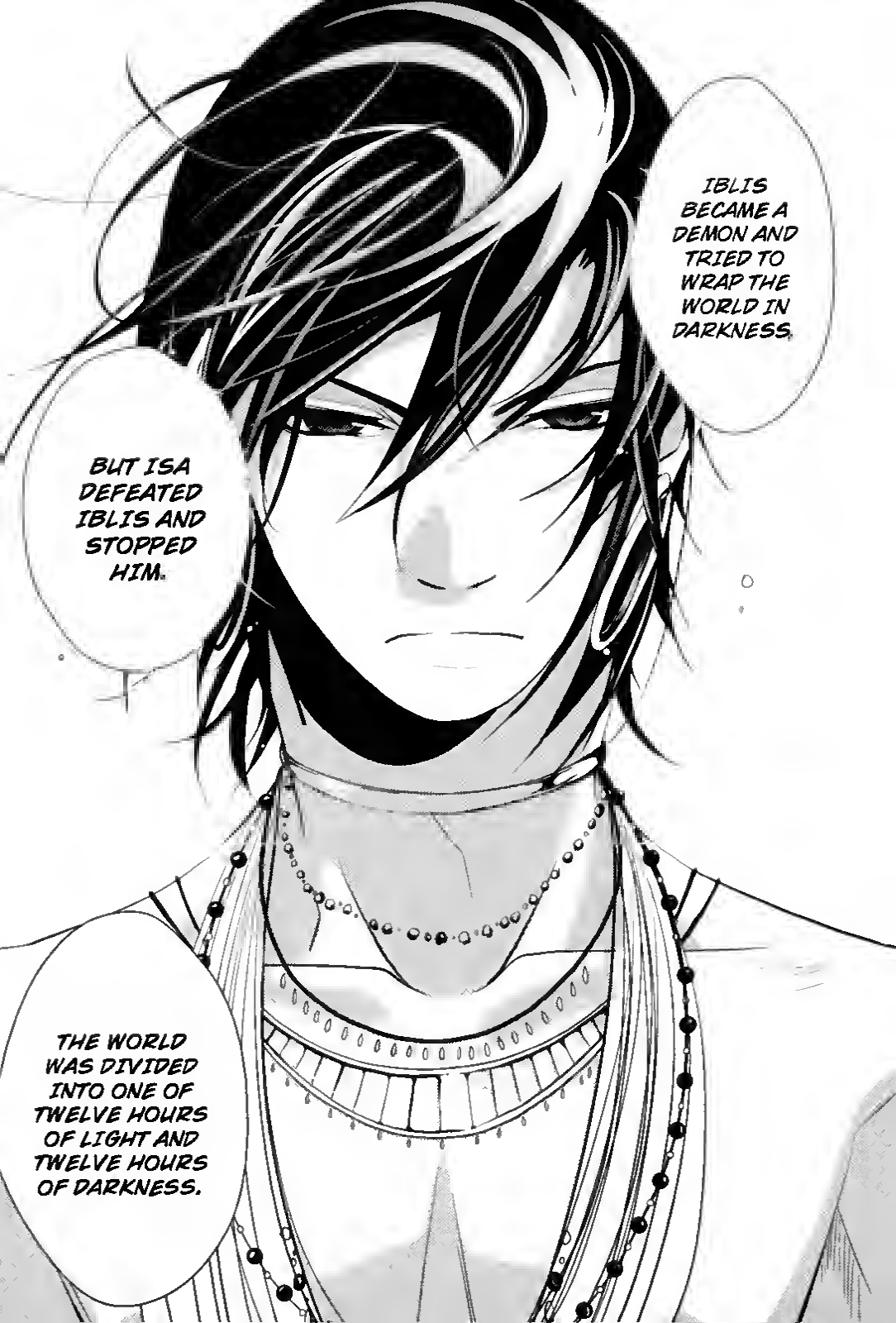
I...
HAVE SERVED PRINCE EIGHT SINCE A YOUNG AGE.
HE IS A CLUMSY MAN.
THOUGH HE WORRIES ABOUT YOU AS A BROTHER, EMPEROR,
HE CANNOT SEPARATE HIMSELF FROM HIS POSITION AS NOBILITY.
HE'S HARD-HEADED!
YOU CAN'T REASON WITH HIM!
HE'S TOO SHY!
NOT TO MENTION THE SIDE-PART
I KNEW IT!
EIGHT'S LIKE A SNARLING BALL OF LOGIC
PFFT!
HUH, SO YOU CAN SMILE.
BUT HE IS STILL MY MASTER.

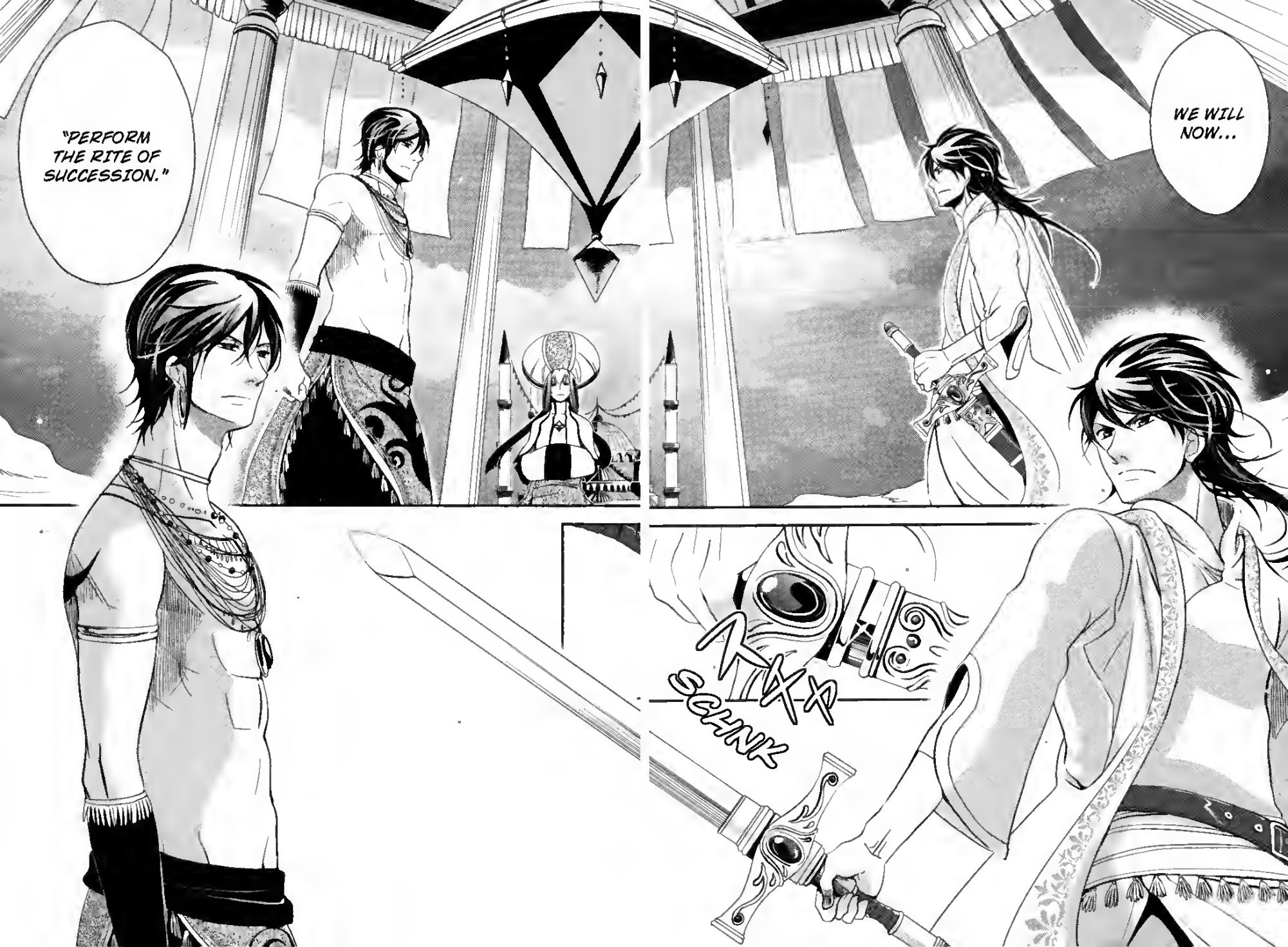
THE BLOOD ON THIS BULLET WAS CONFIRMED TO CONTAIN THE EMPRESS'S DNA.
ALL PREPARATIONS TO BEGIN A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE ISAIST HEADQUARTERS ARE COMPLETE!
PLEASE GIVE US YOUR APPROVAL AS THE NEXT EMPEROR!!
MOTHER'S DNA...
SILVER BULLETS ARE USED ONLY BY ISAISTS!
IF WE TRACE THE SERIAL NUMBER, WE CAN BRING THE TRUTH TO LIGHT!
I'LL FINALLY KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND MOTHER'S DEATH!

TOGRA!
WE'RE READY TO GO OVER HERE.
ARE YOU SURE THESE THINGS WILL WORK?
YOU JUST LEAVE THAT TO ME!
I KNOW THEY'RE ANTIQUES, BUT I GUARANTEE THEY CAN HANDLE THE JOB!
ALTHOUGH IT'S THAT GOD WE'RE POINTING OUR SPEARS AGAINST.
AIR FLOW.
WIND DIREC-TION.
THE REST IS UP TO GOD.

AT TO-
MORROW'S
"RITE OF
SUCCES-
SION"!

AT THE DAWN OF THE WORLD, A PAIR OF TWINS WERE BORN.
THE ELDEST, IBLIS, RULED THE DARKNESS. THE YOUNGEST, ISA, RULED THE LIGHT.

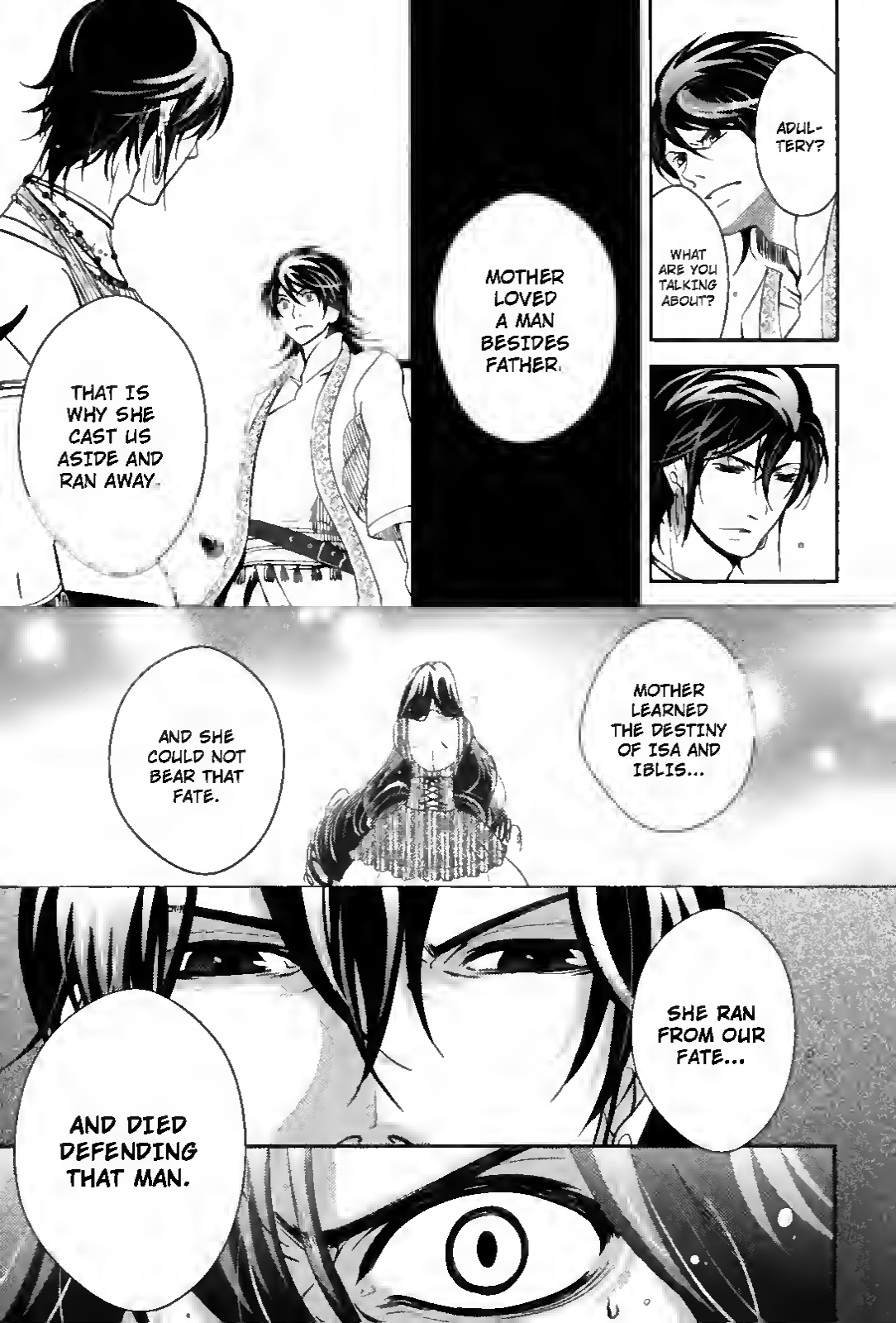

IBLIS BECAME A DEMON AND TRIED TO WRAP THE WORLD IN DARKNESS.
BUT ISA DEFEATED IBLIS AND STOPPED HIM.
THE WORLD WAS DIVIDED INTO ONE OF TWELVE HOURS OF LIGHT AND TWELVE HOURS OF DARKNESS.


"PERFORM THE RITE OF SUCCESSION."
WE WILL NOW...
SCHNK

...
MISS-MAR...
BEFORE THE RITE, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU.
PRINCE TWELVE?

WHAT IS THAT?
THE ISAISTS KILLED THE EMPRESS.
AM I WRONG, MISSMAR?
THE BULLET THAT KILLED THE EMPRESS.
WHERE DID YOU FIND THAT?
NOW THAT IS QUITE A SHOCK.
SILVER BULLETS ARE UNIQUE TO ISAISTS.

PERHAPS YOU COULD PUT IT THAT WAY...
YES...
CLENCH
WHY DID YOU KILL MY MOTHER?
WHY...
I COULD NOT TELL YOU THAT THE EMPRESS DECEIVED THE EMPEROR AND COMMITTED ADULTERY!
I COULD NOT BRING MYSELF TO TELL YOU THE PAINFUL TRUTH, YOUR HIGHNESS.
...BUT I AM AFRAID YOU ARE MISTAKEN. IT WAS ALL AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT.


THAT IS WHY SHE CAST US ASIDE AND RAN AWAY.
MOTHER LOVED A MAN BESIDES FATHER.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
ADULTERY?
AND SHE COULD NOT BEAR THAT FATE.
MOTHER LEARNED THE DESTINY OF ISA AND IBLIS...
AND DIED DEFENDING THAT MAN.
SHE RAN FROM OUR FATE...

ISA KILLS IBLIS!!
"THE RITE OF SUCCES-SION" IS A RITUAL IN WHICH...
THIS IS THE FATE THE EMPRESS COULD NOT ACCEPT...

WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE?!
LET US OUTTA HERE, GOD DAMN IT!
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK WE ARE?!
YOU CAN'T TREAT US LIKE THIS!
HE'S OUR PRINCE !!
OF COURSE HE'S ALL RIGHT!
I ONLY HOPE NOTHING HAS HAPPENED TO THE PRINCE...

ALL RIGHT, BOYS...
ARE YOU PREPARED TO DEDICATE THE REST OF YOUR LIVES TO PRINCE TWELVE?

WERE YOU GOING TO BECOME EMPEROR AND SAVE ME?
YOU CAN'T SAVE ME!
IT'S JUST AN ACT!!
YOU BELIEVED THAT FOOLISH-NESS?
WHAT...
ELEVEN...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IN THIS COUNTRY, IBLIS'S EXISTENCE IS NOT ALLOWED.
STOP KIDDING AROUND...
YOU BECOMING EMPEROR...
MEANS MY DEATH.

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE THE THRONE, AREN'T YOU?
THEN KILL ME,
TWELVE.

THIS HAS TO BE SOME KIND OF JOKE...
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT,
ELEVEN?
I COULD NEVER...
YOU WANT ME TO KILL YOU?!
YOU KNOW I COULD NEVER DO THAT!
EVEN IF IT MEANS THE DEATH OF YOUR BELOVED KOYUKI?

WHAT?
COME ON...
STOP SCREW-ING AROUND.
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU, ELEVEN.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
SCHK
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO KOYUKI?!
WHAT ABOUT ME DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

HOW WOULD YOU, WHO GLIDED THROUGH LIFE EFFORTLESSLY, UNDERSTAND...
THE LIFE YOU STOLE FROM ME?!
FWOOSH
OR THE FEELINGS YOU TRAMPLED OVER?!

IF YOU CAN'T KILL ME, THEN I'LL KILL YOU...
TWELVE.
IT'S A PROMISE.

EVEN AFTER YOU BECOME EMPEROR, WE'LL BE TOGETHER FOREVER.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
WE'LL ALWAYS...

BE TOGETHER.
WE'LL NEVER BE APART.
IT'S A PRO-MISE.

CHAPTER 14: THE NEW EMPEROR

ANSWER ME, ELEVEN!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO KOYUKI?!
IF ANY HARM HAS COME TO HER...
EVEN IF YOU ARE MY BROTHER...
I'LL NEVER...
NEVER FORGIVE YOU!

YOU PITY ME, DON'T YOU?
YOUR HYPOCRISY MAKES ME SICK.
ABANDONED BY MOTHER
SHUNNED BY FATHER
A BOY LOVED BY NO ONE.
"OH, POOR IBLIS."
THAT GIRL IS THE SAME.
A WORM WHOSE LIFE HAS NO MEANING!
ISN'T SHE?!
BANG

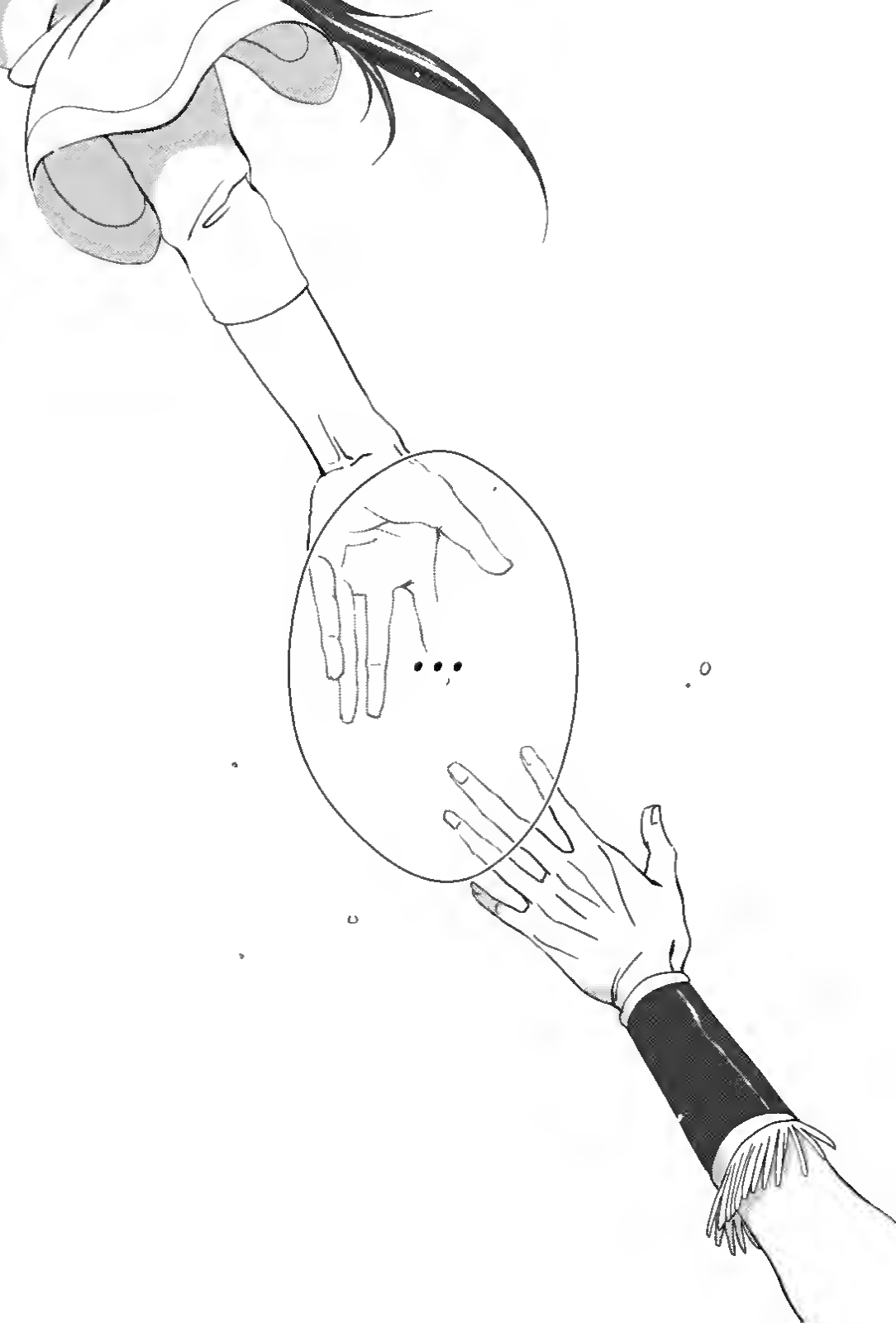
DO YOU DESPISE ME...
MY DEAR TWELVE?
!!

I DESPISE YOU TOO.
MY HATRED RIPS...
TEARS...
STRONG-ER...
THAN ANY-ONE... ANY-THING!
IF I'M GOING TO DIE, I WANT IT TO BE AT YOUR HANDS...
IN THE DEPTHS OF YOUR HATRED!

WOOSH
THAT'S...

TWELVE...
LET US BE BOUND FOR ALL ETERNITY.

CRASH!!
?!



ELEVEN!!

WHAT IS ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?
YOUR GRACE!
WHAT WERE THOSE SHADOWS?!
INTRUD-ERS?!
ISRAFEL?
...
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...
"THE RITE OF SUCCESSION" WAS COMPLETED WITHOUT INCIDENT.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, YOUR GRACE?!
I AM PERFECTLY FINE.

NOW...
IT IS TIME FOR THE CORO-NATION.
M-MISS-MAR?
N-NO, IT...
IT CAN'T BE...

YOUR NEW EMPEROR.
IBLIS ?!

ELEVEN IS THE TRUE "ISA"?!
THAT'S RIDIC-ULOUS!

THEY SWITCHED PLACES WHEN THEY WERE KIDS?
WH...
WHAT HAPPENED TO TWELVE?
BUT ELEVEN SAYS IT'S TRUE...
THAT'S OBVIOUSLY A LIE!
DON'T BE STUPID!
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN THEIR PLAN ALL ALONG!
THEY HAD CONNECTIONS TO THE ANTI-ROYALISTS?!
DJIBRIL ?!
...HE WAS KIDNAPPED BY THE ESCAPING DJIBRIL.
!!
THE CORONATION IS TOMORROW! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!
THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO.
THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO FOR HIM.
...NOW THAT HE'S FALLEN INTO THE ANTI-ROYALISTS' HANDS...

REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE TRUTH MAY BE,
HE MUST EXIST.
"ISA" IS THE SYMBOL OF THIS COUNTRY.
WE HAVE RECEIVED WORD THAT MISSMAR PLANS TO HOLD THE CORONATION TOMORROW AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
TELL NO ONE WHAT TRANSPIRED.
EVERYONE, I WANT YOU TO KEEP TODAY'S EVENTS A SECRET.
...IT SEEMS MISSMAR IS DISPLEASED WITH ISRAFEL.

DO NOT LET ANY MORE EMBERS BLOW BACK ONTO THE ROYAL FAMILY.
THIS WAS YOUR SUBORDI NATES' FAILURE
PRETEND YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT

I'D BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LIGHTNING BOLTS IF I WERE YOU, YOUR GRACE.
CHOMP
YOU ARE ONE TERRIFY-ING GUY.
I NEVER IMAGINED YOU'D PUT "IBLIS" ON THE THRONE.
HE IS A WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO THE THRONE...
PRINCE ELEVEN IS OF LEGITIMATE ROYAL BIRTH.
YOU CAN CALL ME ZOPF, YOUR GRACE.
WE ARE ALONE HERE.
COLONEL INJEEL.

...I WOULD LIKE YOU TO BEGIN YOUR NEXT MISSION RIGHT AWAY...
COLONEL INJEEL...
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY?
THE CITIZENS DON'T CARE WHO ISA IS.
HIS EXISTENCE IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT.
I FINALLY GET BACK TO THE CAPITAL AND THIS IS WHAT'S WAITING FOR ME?
WHAT A SLAVE-DRIVER.
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO RECOVER SOMETHING FOR ME
FROM THE HANDS OF THE ANTI-ROYALISTS.
THE IMPERIAL SWORD, TAWHID,
AND...

THE HEAD OF THE TRAITOR "IBLIS."
I, LEADER OF THE FIFTH DIVISION OF MALAIKA, "NAKIR,"
INQUISITOR ZOPF INJEEL...
DO HEREBY ACCEPT YOUR REQUEST.

HURRAY!
HURRAY!
HURRAY!
HURRAY!
HURRAY!
YOUR HIGH-NESS!
THE NEW EMPEROR!
VIVA, EMPEROR TWELVE !!
AS THE HIGH PRIEST OF THE ISAIST CHURCH,
I AM VERY PLEASED TO FINALLY SEE THIS, THE DAY OF THE 20TH HOLY BIRTH FESTIVAL.
FORMERLY PRINCE TWELVE...
PAH-PA-RAH

THE 12TH EMPEROR, ZERO HEALD KHAN ORCHIS!
O ISA...
WHERE'S TWELVE?!
WHAT'S ELEVEN DOING HERE?!
?!

IF ISA BECOMES EMPEROR,
THE SKY WILL BE REDUCED TO DARKNESS.
IT IS CLEAR TO MY EYES.
ME, IBLIS, BEING ISA?
NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL A MYTH.
THE TRUTH DOES NOT MATTER.

HISTORY IS WRITTEN BY THE VICTORS.
THIS WHAT YOU WANT-ED?
IS...
THIS WORLD IS EMPTY.
TWELVE...
WITHOUT YOU...

THE TWELFTH ISA HEREBY DECLARES HIS CORONATION!
ROAR
I AM "IBLIS."

I WILL TAKE EVERY-THING...
AND DESTROY IT.

OZACK
KH!
KH!
BI-
CORN
!!
SHNK
HOW
PATHETIC.
DO YOU
STILL THINK
YOU CAN
DEFEAT THE
IMPERIAL
ARMY...
MUZA-
HALLA?!
SHIT
!!

...I DESPISE YOU.
IF YOU CAN'T KILL ME,
THEN I...
WILL KILL YOU, TWELVE.

CHAPTER 15:
SPIDER'S HAND

THREE MONTHS AFTER "THE RITE OF SUCCESSION"
THERE HAVE BEEN MANY SACRIFICES...
AMONG OUR MUZAHALLA BROTHERS.
THE IMPERIAL ARMY IS GAINING GROUND FASTER THAN WE EXPECTED.
THE ENEMY'S STRENGTH IS OVERWHELMING.
EVEN "THE SEALS OF THE SEVEN LUMINARIES," WHICH WERE SUPPOSED TO ARRIVE, HAVEN'T COME IN FROM THE VARIOUS TRIBES.
AND WE HAVE LOST CONTACT WITH THE BEDOUIN TRIBES.
BUT EVEN THAT LAST THREAD OF HOPE HAS BEEN SEVERED.
THE RETURN OF THE MIRACLE OF ORCHIS...
...OUR LAST HOPE WAS...

THERE ARE THREE THINGS NECESSARY TO RECREATE THE MIRACLE OF ORCHIS...
WE HAVE THE IMPERIAL SWORD, TAWHID...
BUT THE SEALS OF THE SEVEN LUMINARIES AREN'T COMING...
AND THE PRINCE...
WAS NOT THE EMIR WE SOUGHT.
THUNK

SILVIE !!
BI-CORN!
WOW, THEY GOT YOU GOOD...
CALL THE MEDIC!
THEY'RE JUST SCRATCHES !!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SHAJARA?
...ALL DEAD.
...
THE MIRACLE OF ORCHIS..
OVER-THROWING THE EMPIRE IS NOTH-ING BUT A DREAM!
WE'RE ALL DOOMED!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?!
CLENCH

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS?
THE MAN YOU BROUGHT BACK IS NOT EMIR.
YOU MADE THE WRONG DECISION.
WE CANNOT FIGHT THE EMPIRE WITHOUT EMIR.
YOU'D BELIEVE ME IF YOU JUST GOT TO KNOW HIM, TOG!
THAT LIFELESS SACK OF BONES?
PRINCE TWELVE IS EMIR.
...
SILVIE.
I AM JUST AS MUCH AT FAULT FOR TRUSTING YOU...

!!
WE'RE STILL NOT CERTAIN THEY'RE DEAD YET.
I'M GOING OUT IN SEARCH OF SAKURA AND THE SHAMS.
ANY-WAY,
THIS IS GETTING US NO-WHERE.
...I'M STAYING WITH PRINCE TWELVE.
THIS IS THE PATH I CHOSE.
CLENCH

I BELIEVE IN HIM.
PRINCE TWELVE IS OUR EMIR.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THINGS HERE.
HAVE IT YOUR WAY.

DON'T GIVE ME THAT!
PRINCE TWELVE'S JUST HAD HIS HEART BROKEN!
EXACTLY.
TOG...
IF THE BEDOUIN WILL NOT COME TO US,
THEN WE WILL GO TO THEM.
AS LONG AS THE PRINCE IS ALIVE...
HEY, YEAH!
THAT MAKES THINGS EASY!
THEN WE STILL HAVE HOPE.
WE HAVE TAWHID AND PRINCE TWELVE,
WHICH LEAVES ONLY ONE THING.
TO BRING BACK THE MIRACLE OF ORCHIS...

LET'S GATHER "THE SEALS OF THE SEVEN LUMINARIES" OURSELVES!
GOOD IDEA! THEN WE CAN TURN THIS WHOLE THING AROUND!
WE'LL START FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!

...NOW, ABOUT ISRAFEL'S PLANNED COUP D'ETAT...
WE ARE CURRENTLY INTERROGATING THE CHIEF OF STAFF, HADEED, IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THE RINGLEADER
HE HAS KEPT QUIET SO FAR. BUT SURELY THAT WILL NOT LAST MUCH LONGER.
AND THE END OF THE BEDOUIN RESISTANCE, TOO, IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

AS YOU INSTRUCTED, YOUR HIGHNESS, WE ARE MOVING THE BEDOUIN INTO THE RESERVATIONS
THEY REFUSE TO COOPERATE?
THOSE WHO REFUSE TO COOPERATE WILL BE DETAINED IN THE CAMPS.
THEN KILL THEM ALL.
!!
BUT, SIRE, THERE ARE MANY WOMEN AND CHILDREN AMONG THEM!
THAT COULD FAN THE FLAMES OF THE CITIZENS' REVOLT!

SCHK
THEN DIE WITH THEM.

THE CITIZENS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF THE COUNTRY.
IT IS ONLY NATURAL
THAT THEY BE SACRIFICED FOR THE GOOD OF ORCHIS... THE GOOD OF THE EMPEROR.
I KILL AND KILL...
BLOOD, TEARS, THEIR CRIES OF ANGUISH...
I HAVE KILLED COUNTLESS THRONGS...
EYES FULL OF RAGE... EYES FULL OF FEAR...
THOSE WHO RESIST ME... THOSE WHO SERVE ME...

BUT IT IS NEVER ENOUGH.
THIS...
CANNOT HOPE TO REACH MY DARKNESS.
THIS WAY.

KEEP QUIET.
DON'T MAKE A SOUND, PRINCE.
.. PRINCE ?
...
PRINCE ?!

YOU BECOMING EMPEROR...
MEANS MY DEATH.
TWELVE.
EVEN AFTER YOU BECOME EMPEROR, WE'LL BE TOGETHER FOREVER.
IT'S A PROMISE.
GET WALK-ING!

WE BROUGHT HIM.
...WHERE IS TAWHID?
TAWHID?
WE BROUGHT A SWORD IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN.
JUST HURRY UP AND GIVE US THE MONEY!
KILL THEM.
?!
EXCELLENT WORK.

YOU TRICKED US!
DAMN ISAISTS !!
YOU BASTARD! THIS WAS YOUR PLAN ALL ALONG!
ARGH !!
SCHK
CRUNCH
YOU THINK I WOULD TRUST TRAITOROUS ANTI-ROYALISTS?
EEK!
WE'LL DO WHAT-EVER YOU SAY!
J-JUST, PLEASE, SPARE OUR LIVES!
TAKE HIM AWAY.
THAT SMELL!
...?
QUICK, EVERY-ONE, HOLD YOUR BREATH!

...?
WAKE UP.
IT'S MORNING, TWELVE, WAKE UP.
MOTHER?

YOU UP?

EAT.
THUNK

FWIP
CHOMP
OM. NOM
CHOMP

...THIS IS GOOD.
COME.

IT'S SUN-RISE.

WHO ARE YOU?

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER (4) END

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER

ABOUT "THE TWELVE HOUR RULER"

"THE TWELVE HOUR RULER" WON OHZORA PUBLISHING'S 2009 SECOND ANNUAL NEXT PRIZE AND BEGAN ITS RUN IN "ROMANCE TIARA." IT IS CURRENTLY BEING SERIALIZED ON YAHOO! BOOK STORE (FORMERLY YAHOO! COMICS) AND "NEXTCOMIC FIRST" BEFORE ITS TRADE PAPERBACK RELEASES.

I'VE BEEN DRAWING WEBCOMICS ON MY OWN SITE FOR FUN FOR A WHILE NOW, BUT A FEW YEARS AGO I NEVER WOULD HAVE IMAGINED I'D BE DOING THIS OFFICIALLY. SOMEITMES YOU JUST HAVE TO KEEP AT IT!

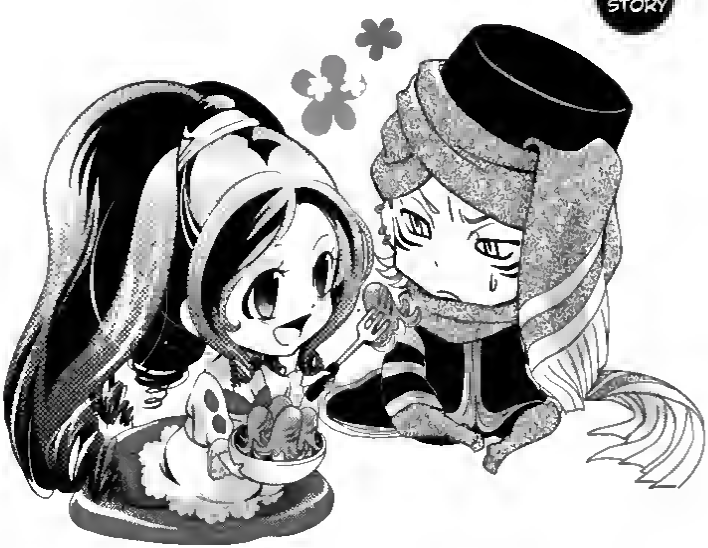
THE ONE-SHOT WHICH BEGINS ON THE NEXT PAGE, "THE TWO IN THE BEGINNING," WAS SERIALIZED IN "ROMANCE TIARA," BEFORE THE MAIN COMIC BEGAN. IT IS SET BEFORE OUR PROTAGONISTS TWELVE AND ELEVEN WERE BORN. I'D BEEN WANTING TO WRITE IT FOR A WHILE, AND IT'S ONE OF MY FAVORITES, SO I HOPE YOU ENJOY IT.

HE APPEARS IN THE MAIN STORY AS WELL, BUT YAD WAS DESIGNED TO BE A CHARACTER WHO IS DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH TWELVE AND BECOMES THE POLAR OPPOSITE OF ELEVEN

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER
SIDE STORY
THE TWO IN THE BEGIN-NING.

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER

SIDE STORY

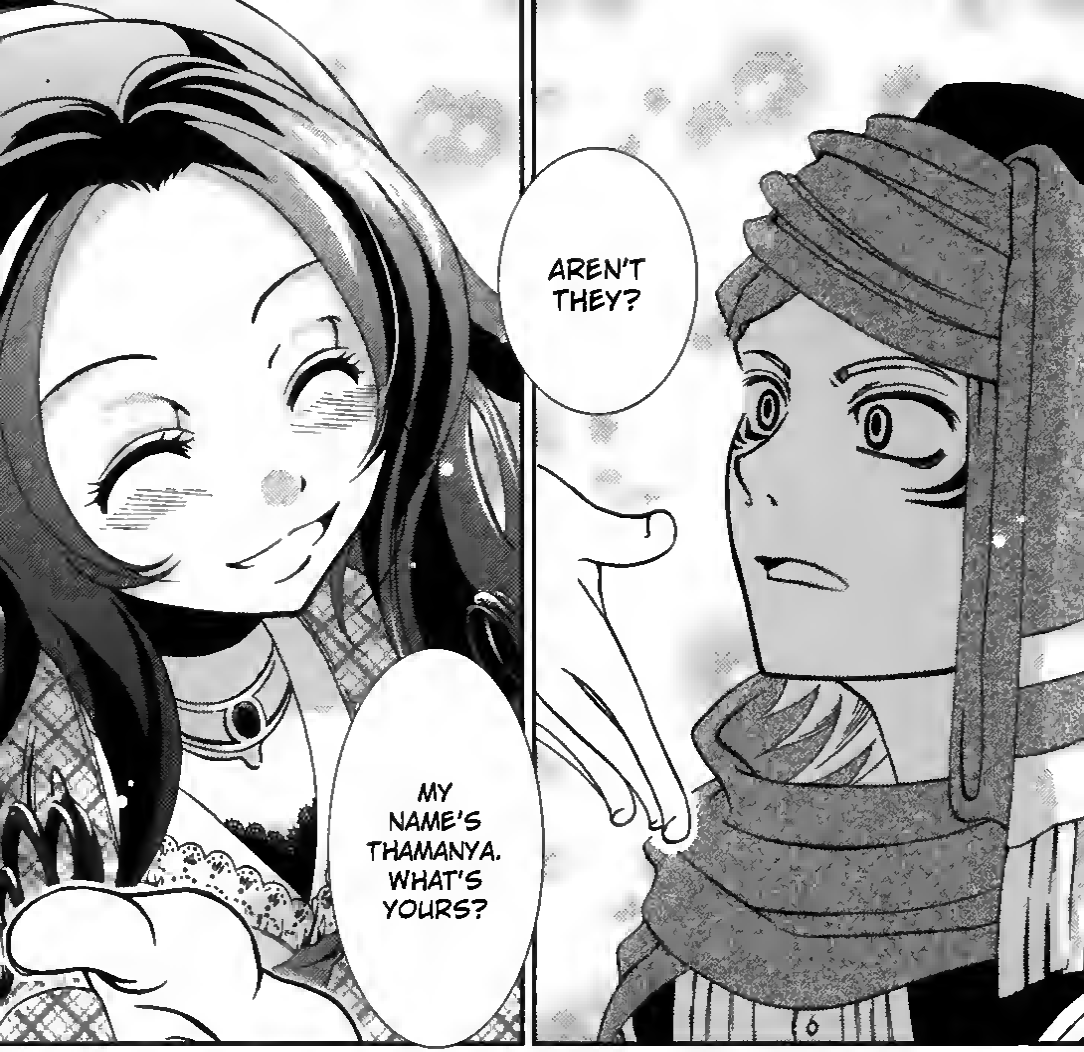


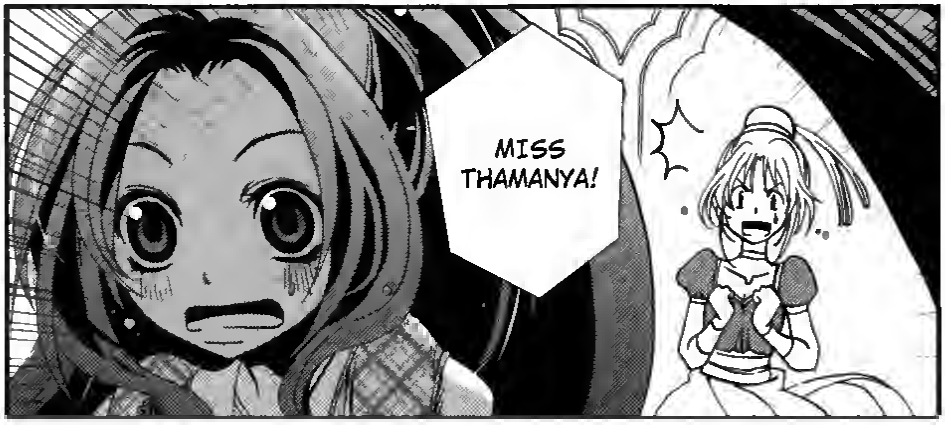
THAMANYA, YOU HAVE A FIANCE.
A FIANCE ?
THAT'S RIGHT. HE SAVED MOMMY'S LIFE ONCE. HE'S A VERY POWERFUL MAN.

SO WHO YOU ARE GOING TO MARRY HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED, BUT I WANT YOU TO FIND HAPPINESS ON YOUR OWN.
HAPPI-NESS?
YES...

AND ONCE YOU FIND IT,
GRAB HOLD AND NEVER LET GO.
HEY, YOU!

YOU'RE A BEDOUIN, AREN'T YOU?
TAKE ME WITH YOU! I WANT TO SEE THE OUTSIDE WORLD!
I HEARD SUNSETS ARE REALLY PRETTY IN THE DESERT!


AREN'T THEY?
MY NAME'S THAMANYA. WHAT'S YOURS?


MISS THAMANYA!

HE'S MY FIANCE, BUT HE'S REAL OLD...
JEEZ! MISS THAMANYA!
OH CRAP! I FORGOT PRINCE ZERO'S ALMOST HERE!
PRINCE ZERO?
...
LET'S GO!

COME ON!

PRINCE ZERO! YOU WERE WATCH-ING?
I'M SORRY, SHE'S QUITE THE TOMBOY.
OH, THAT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.

YOU'RE A VERY CUTE, CHEERFUL GIRL...
THAMANYA.

WOW!
IT'S SO PRETTY!
WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT THIS?
YOU DON'T THINK IT'S PRETTY?
NOT REALLY...

YOU HAVE TO FIND THE GOOD PARTS OF LIFE YOURSELF.
OH, DON'T TALK LIKE THAT.
THAT WAY, EVERY DAY IS FUN!

...IS THAT HOW IT WORKS?
THAT'S HOW IT WORKS!

?
WH-
WHAT'S
HIS
PROBLEM?
GLARE
WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING
HERE?

STAY AWAY FROM THE MANSION! GET OUT OF HERE!
SINNER'S CHILD!
STOP IT!
WHOOSH
ダッ

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!
OH CRAP! CHEESE IT!
MISS THAMANYA !!
SHUT UP! DON'T TOUCH ME!

FATHER?!
FATHER...
IS IT FRUSTRATING?
...I PITY THEM.
...BUT IT IS A LITTLE FRUSTRATING.

I SEE.
RUB

WHAT DID THEY MEAN, "SINNER'S CHILD"?
...
I'M FATHER'S CHILD, BUT...
WE AREN'T RELATED BY BLOOD.

...IN MY TRIBE, MEN CONTROL EVERY-THING.
A WOMAN IS ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN TO SLEEP WITH A MAN BESIDES HER HUSBAND.
...I AM A CHILD OF INFIDELITY.

BUT I'VE SEEN YOU WITH YOUR FATHER. HE LOVES YOU.
YOU LOVE HIM TOO, DON'T YOU?
CLENCH

EVERY-ONE SAYS FATHER'S AN EMBAR-RASSMENT TO THE TRIBE...
BUT I RESPECT MY FATHER.
SWISH
BECAUSE I'M HIS SON...

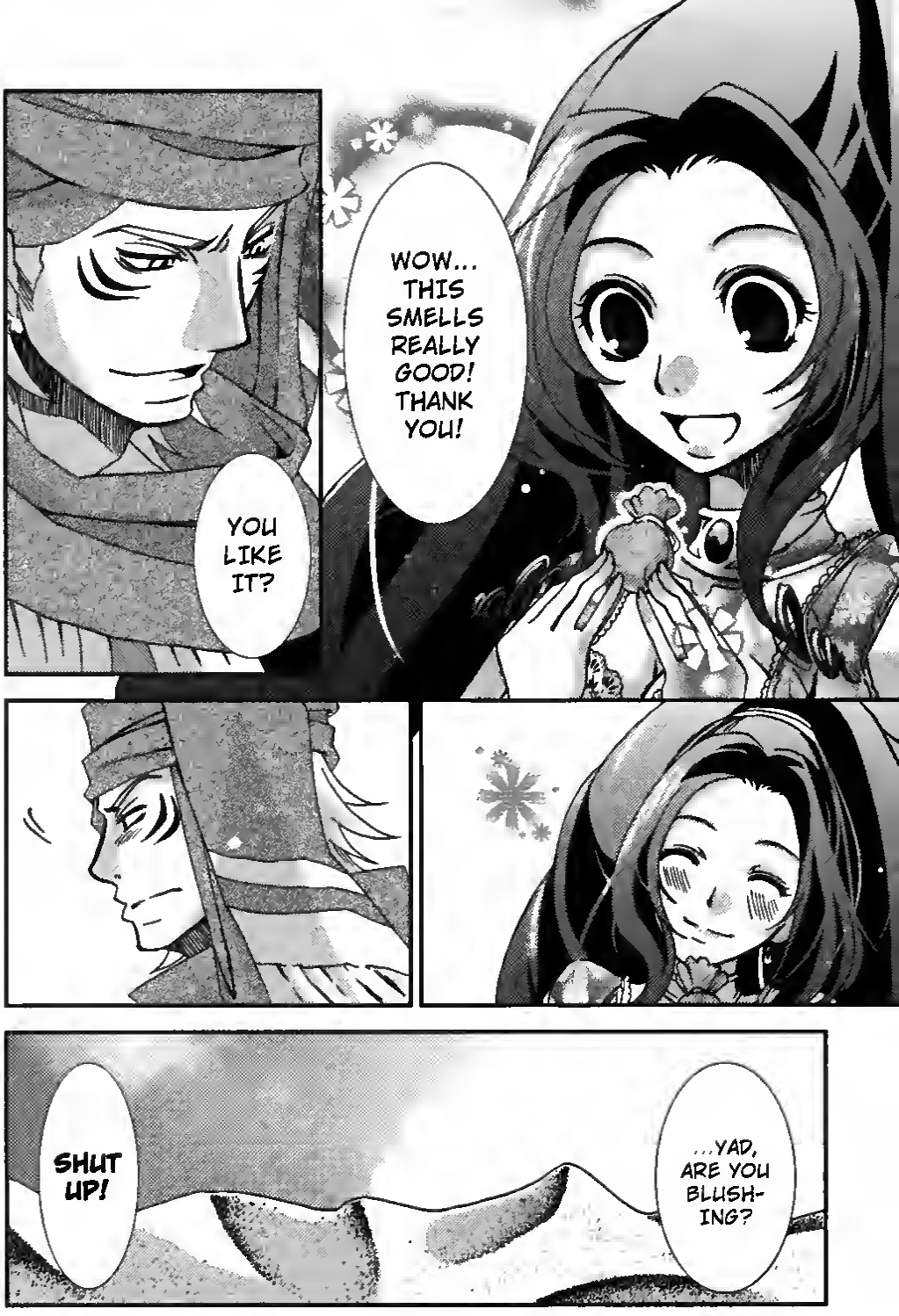
YOU'RE SHORT, BUT YOU'VE GOT REALLY BIG HANDS.

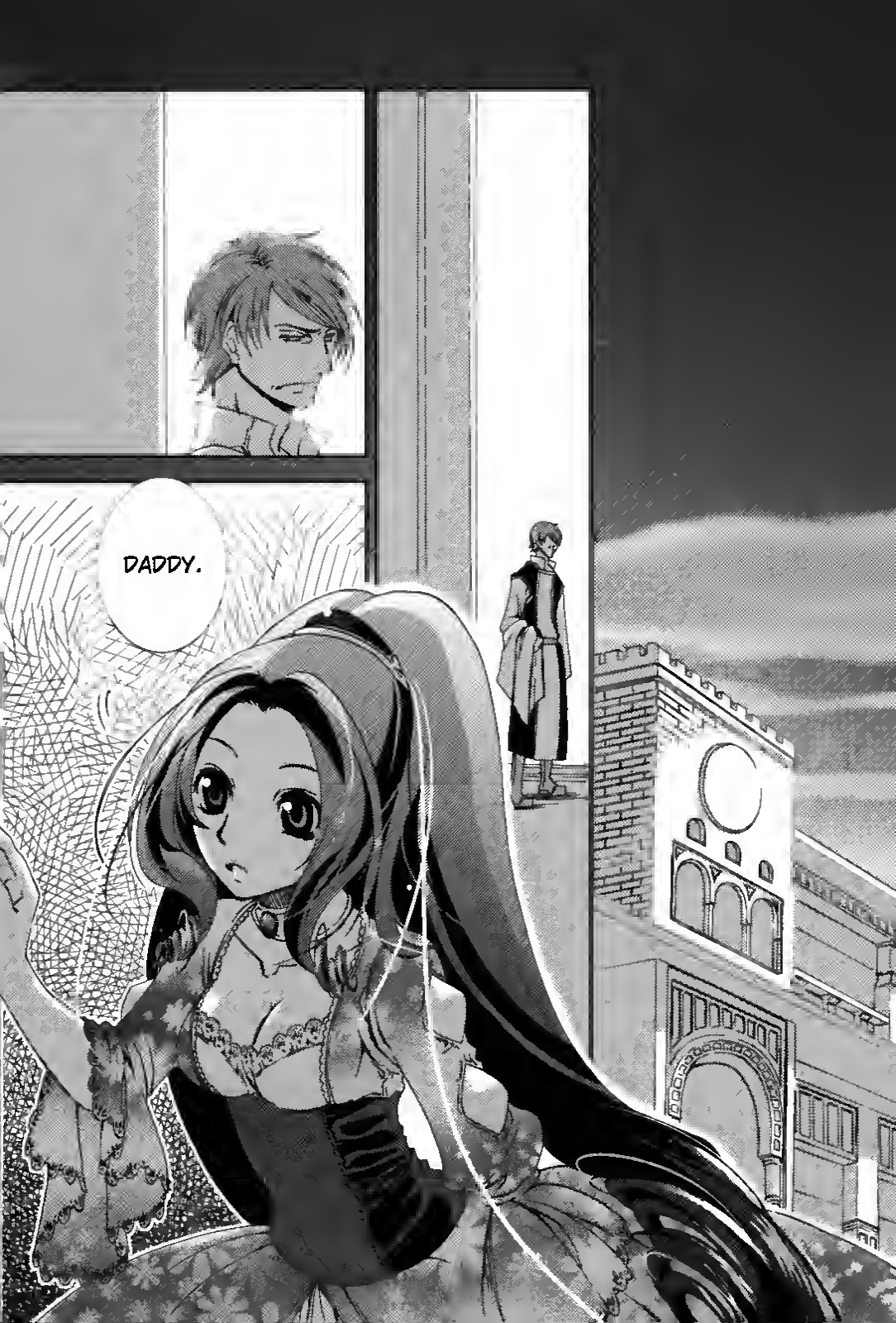
EEK!
CALL YOU YAD* ?
CAN I...
*HEBREW FOR "HAND"

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING.

YOU GOT EVEN TALLER...
EVEN THOUGH I'M THE OLDER ONE!
AND YOU WERE SOOO SMALL WHEN WE FIRST MET!
WELL, MY DAD WAS PRETTY TALL...
OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST SHRINK-ING?
JEEZ! YAD, YOU MEANIE!

RUSTLE
HERE, THIS IS FOR YOU.
WHAT IS IT?
OH, I, UH, GOT MY DAD TO TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE SOME INCENSE THAT WOULD SUIT YOU.
IT'S COOL IF YOU DON'T WANT IT...
HUH?! I-I WANT IT!


WOW... THIS SMELLS REALLY GOOD! THANK YOU!
YOU LIKE IT?
SHUT UP!
...YAD, ARE YOU BLUSH-ING?


DADDY.

PRINCE ZERO...
HAS SENT FOR YOU...
DADDY?
THAMA-NYA...
WELCOME HOME. WERE YOU AT THE PALACE?

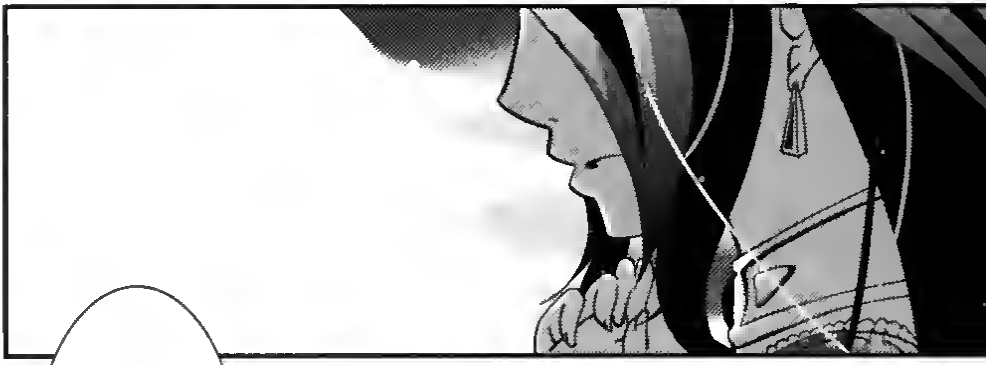
DO I HAVE SOME-THING ON MY FACE?
WHAT IS IT?

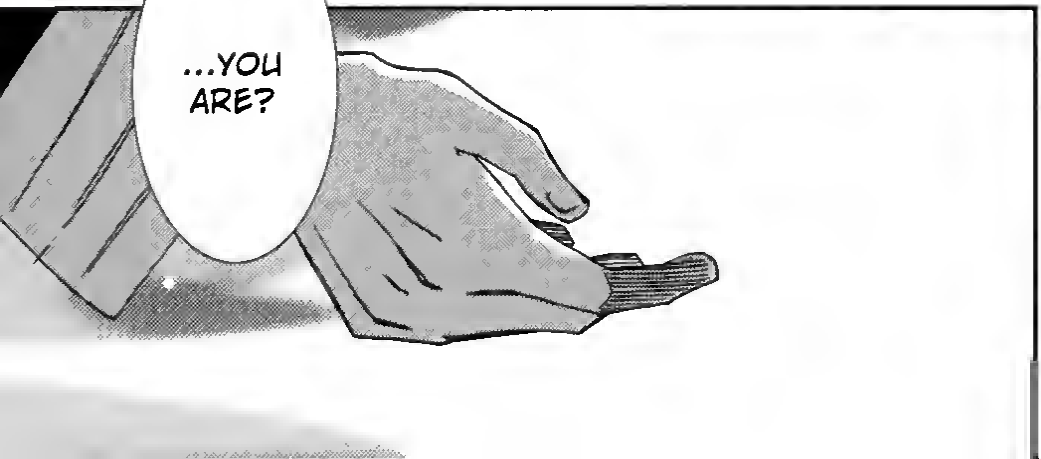
DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WE CAME HERE?
SAY, YAD...

...WHAT ABOUT NOW?
...YEAH, YOU WERE A MAJOR TOMBOY.

YOU'VE GROWN VERY BEAUTI-FUL.
YOU'RE NOW A FITTING PRINCESS OF THE TAJRID FAMILY.

YAD...
I'M GETTING MARRIED.




...YOU ARE?

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS.

HEY, YAD, IS THIS WHERE YOU WANT YOUR LUGGAGE?
YEAH.
MAN, YOU MUST BE GOIN' ON A REAL LONG TRIP. WHERE YA HEADED?
NOWHERE IN PARTICULAR.

YOU SMELL REALLY GOOD, MOTHER!
REALLY GOOD!
I DO? THANK YOU.

WHAT SMELL IS IT?
IT'S INCENSE.
SOMEONE VERY IMPORTANT TO MOMMY MADE IT.
IMPORTANT?
THAT'S RIGHT. SOMEONE I HOPE IS VERY HAPPY.

AND NO MATTER HOW FAR APART WE MAY BE...
THE TWO OF US ARE ALWAYS PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER'S HAPPINESS.
ELEVEN,
TWELVE,

THE TWELVE HOUR RULER SIDE STORY
THE TWO IN THE BEGINNING * END

CHAPTERS 13 - 15
SERIALIZED IN
"NEXTCOMIC FIRST"
NOV. 2011 - FEB. 2012

THE TWELVE HOUR
RULER SIDE STORY
"THE TWO IN THE
BEGINNING"
SERIALIZED IN
"ROMANCE TIARA"
JUL. 2009

PRINCE EIGHT'S MORAL GUIDANCE

AS A MEMBER OF DJIBRIL, I CINCH MY BELT...
AND GO ALL OUT SO THE NEXT GUY DOESN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME!
CUT YOUR HAIR INTO A MORE TIDY STYLE,
AND TRIM YOUR NAILS SO THAT THEY DO NOT EXTEND PAST YOUR FINGER-TIPS.
WEAR YOUR UNIFORM AS RECOM-MENDED...
THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY NO INAPPROPRIATE FRATERNIZATION WITH MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX!!
YES, SIR...
NO TATTOOS!
NO HAIR DYE! NO MANICURES! AND NO TANNING SALONS!!
AND...

AHEM
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M TWELVE, SIR.
CHILDREN'S WORK HOURS ARE ONLY UNTIL 8 PM.
KEEP THAT IN MIND.
YOU REALLY KNOW YOUR STUFF WHEN IT COMES TO BENFITS AND SUCH
NAME
POINTS REINDEER
WORK HISTORY
SCHOOL / WORK HISTORY
NEXT...
DON'T WE HAVE ANY DECENT MEMBERS?
NEXT!
POINTS...
WORK HISTORY
WHAT A FAKE NAME!
ARE YOU A SPY?!
REVEAL WHO YOU REALLY ARE!!
IT'S MY REAL NAME!
END

Next F comics

12時の権力者

4

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担当編集
中江陽奈

デザイン
安斎 秀+ペイブリッジ・スタジオ

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北脇信夫

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